

Applicant: Sijpkens, et al.
Application No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: Herewith
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B. Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Previously presented): Method for the preparation of Mo-V-Te-Nb catalyst comprising the steps of:

- a) preparing a slurry comprising ionic species of Mo, V, Te and Nb and an inert carrier by combining the inert carrier in the form of a powder with one or more solutions comprising the above metal ionic species;
- b) drying of the slurry to obtain a particulate product;
- c) precalcining the dried particulate product at a temperature of 150-350°C in an oxygen-containing atmosphere;
- d) calcining the precalcined dried particulate product at a temperature of 350-750°C in an inert atmosphere to obtain the catalyst.

Claim 2. (Original): Method according to claim 1 wherein the drying is performed by spray-drying, the spray-drying preferably being performed at a temperature of 100-250°C.

Claim 3. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the calcining is conducted in an argon or nitrogen atmosphere.

Claim 4. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the ceramic inert carrier has a mean particle size of 0.1-100 nm.

Claim 5. (Currently amended): Method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, comprising an additional step e) of processing the catalyst of step d) to catalyst particles having a size of 0.1-5 mm.

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Claim 6. (Currently amended): Mo-V-Te-Nb catalyst obtainable by the method of ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1.

Claim 7. (Original): Use of a catalyst according to claim 6 for the preparation of acrylic acid or acrylonitrile by catalytic oxidation or ammoxidation, respectively, of propane.

Claim 8. (Original): Use of a catalyst according to claim 6 for the preparation of methacrylic acid or methacrylonitrile by catalytic oxidation or ammoxidation, respectively, of isobutane.

Claim 9. (Original): Use of a catalyst according to claim 6 for the preparation of acetic acid by catalytic oxidation of ethane.

Claim 10. (Currently amended): Use according to ~~any of claims 7-9~~ claim 7, wherein the oxidation or ammoxidation is conducted in a fixed bed reactor.

Claim 11. (Previously presented): Use according to claim 8, wherein the oxidation or ammoxidation is conducted in a fixed bed reactor.

Claim 12. (Previously presented): Use according to claim 9, wherein the oxidation or ammoxidation is conducted in a fixed bed reactor.